

From: Terry Williams
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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For the record, I was against the original lawsuit filed against Microsoft. As a consumer, I purchased my PC from Dell with Microsoft software installed. I made this decision based on past experience with their software.

My PC came with Internet Explorer as my browser. I have experience in using Netscape and my personal preference is with Internet Explorer. As a consumer I could have made an easy change to my system and gone with Netscape. The original lawsuit was brought because someone felt that Microsoft had an unfair advantage by bundling all of their software together. In my opinion, this is a false premise and tends to lead us down a slippery slope. What will happen if Lotus 1-2-3 decides that Microsoft has an unfair advantage with bundling their Excel with other products. Price was my major reason and quality were my major reasons for choosing Microsoft software. The best way for Netscape to compete is to create products that compete with Word, Excel, Power Point and Outlook Express. I have used Netscape email in the past and sincerely believe Outlook is a far better product.

I retired on 12/31/99 from CSX Transportation as Director of Interline Switching. I have a Masters Degree from Johns Hopkins with a concentration in Information Technology. I believe overturning the original lawsuit and sending it back to the lower court is the correct approach. I believe Microsoft should be held harmless because a settlement will be giving into those members of Congress that opposes big business. As I have stated, "There are market remedies for consumers who wish to use Netscape as their browser".

In closing, if someone spends their private capital and comes up with a automobile engine that runs on water, is the government going to step in and force the developer of this new engine to share it with everyone else? I hope your answer is NO, because when or if we adopt such a stand, all of the values and principles for which we stand will have been destroyed.

Sincerely;

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